

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1393

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1700

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BB

SUBJ: NEW BARBADOS GOVERNMENT SWORN IN

1. BELOW ARE EXCERPTS FROM AN ARTICLE CARRIED IN THE SEPTEMBER 8 EDITION OF THE (BARBADOS) ADVOCATE-NEWS, ANNOUNCING PRIMIN TOM ADAMS' CABINET. OF SPECIAL NOTE ARE HENRY DEB. FORDE, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; H. BERNARD ST. JOHN, DEPUTY PRIMIN AND MINISTER OF CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL TRADE; AND MISS BILLIE MILLER, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND NATIONAL INSURANCE (FIRST CABINET POST HELD BY A WOMAN).

2. THE ARTICLE BEGINS. . . "THE CABINET OF THE NEW BARBADOS LABOUR GOVERNMENT WAS SWORN IN AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE YESTERDAY BY ACTING GOVERNOR-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM DOUGLAS.

"THE NINE-MEMBER CABINET REPRESENTS A DEPARTURE FROM THE TRADITIONAL CONCEPT OF MINISTERIAL GOVERNMENT
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INTRODUCED IN 1954, AS THE BLP HONOURED ITS PRE-ELECTION

PLEDGE OF REDUCING THE NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT MINISTERS
FROM THE PREVIOUS 11.

"THE IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY WAS ALSO TINGED WITH THE
HISTORICAL INSTALLATION OF BARBADOS' FIRST EVER FEMALE
MINISTER, MISS BILLIE MILLER.

"TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE AS MINISTERS IN THE
CABINET FORMED BY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE
AND PLANNING, MR. J.M.G. "TOM" ADAMS, WERE:

"MR. H. BERNARD ST. JOHN, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS, EXTERNAL TRADE, INDUSTRY
AND TOURISM;

"MISS BILLIE MILLER, MINISTER OF HEALTH AND NATIONAL
INSURANCE;

"MR. LLOYD B. BRATHWAITE, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
AND WORKS;

"MR. LINDSAY BOLDEN, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD
AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS;

"MR. HENRY DEB. FORDE, ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER
OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS;

"MR. LIONEL CRAIG, MINISTER OF LABOUR, WELFARE, YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORT;

"MR. LOUIS TULL, MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT; AND

"MR. RONALD G. MAPP, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND LANDS.

"PRIME MINISTER ADAMS SAID MR. MAPP'S PORTFOLIO
WOULD ALSO INCLUDE THE PARKS AND BEACHES COMMISSION, AND
HE WOULD BE LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE UPPER
CHAMBER.

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"MR. ADAMS DISCLOSED THAT TWO PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES
WOULD BE APPOINTED, AS OPPOSED TO THE FORMER SIX UNDER
THE DEMOCRATIC LABOUR PARTY GOVERNMENT.

"THESE, HE ADDED, WOULD COME FROM THE HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY AND THE SENATE, TO BE ATTACHED TO THE OFFICES
OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER..."

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